

ABSTRACT

The closed distal end of a lumen in a catheter tube is provided with a two-way, three-position valve that infuses fluid from the lumen in substantial alignment with the longitudinal axis of the distal end of the catheter tube. An endwall having material properties determined independently from the material properties of the circumferential outer wall of the catheter tube is attached to the circumferential outer wall, directly or by way of the intermediate circumferential outer walls of a hollow distal extension for the catheter tube. A slit having opposed abutting edges is formed through the endwall to the lumen of the catheter tube. The endwall is perpendicular to or inclined relative to the longitudinal axis of the distal end of the catheter tube and is a planar or arcuate structure of uniform or nonuniform thickness. In multiple lumen catheter devices, an endwall with a slit is provided at the distal end of each individual lumen that is to be closed and valved. Plural endwalls form a single integrated endwall structure or are possessed of distinguishing geometrical and physical properties.

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